

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have lived and worked in Washington State for over 150 years and have played a part in the rich cultural heritage of this state; and

**WHEREAS**, the diverse Asian Pacific American population in Washington State numbers more than 416,000, and is representative of more than eleven Asian and seven Pacific Island nations; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month acknowledges and celebrates the contributions made by Asian Pacific Americans in the arts, education, sciences, government and economic development of Washington State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month provides the opportunity to educate the public on the personal sacrifices and accomplishments made by those of Asian Pacific descent in American history and the role played in the advancement of civil rights and equal opportunity for all people of this state; and

**WHEREAS**, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is a time to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans in our state's economic, social and democratic institutions, as well as celebrate Asian Pacific American history and its role in making Washington State a culturally rich and great place to live;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2006 as

### *Asian Pacific American Heritage Month*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2006

*Christine Gregoire*

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

